

Good Roads Campaign

Mr. R. Goodwin Rhett Outlines the Programme of Work.

Charleston, Jan. 16.—The Charleston Automobile Club met in session at the Chamber of Commerce last night to hear a report from Mr. R. G. Rhett on his trip to Columbia, where a committee met with the State Highway Commission and to take steps to put on the campaign for petitioning the legislature to increase the automobile tax in order to build permanent hard-surface roads.

Mr. Rhett prefaced his remarks by saying that a plan had been devised for building the finest kind of roads without its costing any one a cent. He figured that the saving on the average automobile will be from one to three hundred dollars in repairs and depreciation if hard surface roads are put in. The number of automobiles in the State has increased at a very rapid rate in the past few years, and by 1921 it is but reasonable to expect the number of machines in this State to reach 100,000. Already, the speaker said, Iowa has one automobile for every six persons living within the State and several States have one for every seven or eight people.

The plan as worked out by the committee is to build a hard cover system connecting all the county seats in the State. This will take about 1,500 miles of roads and will cost \$25,000,000. A tax of \$20 an automobile would retire the bond issue necessary to build the roads. But to build the roads, the work must first be put into the hands of business men—men who will take hold of the proposition in a business-like way and push it through. It is not work for college professors and scientists. Mr. Rhett argued that the commission should be increased so as to give every congressional district representation on it. In that way confidence will be established and the matter will come closer home to the people.

Mr. Rhett found when he went to the conference there was difference of opinion. The present commission figured that it would take \$44,000,000 instead of \$25,000,000, as it had figured on wide roads all the way and more mileage. The present commission in figuring figured on other roads than those necessary to connect the county seats. These roads Mr. Rhett argued, should be left to the several counties. He thinks that it will be but a short while after the main roads are built before the counties will connect up every part of their counties with their own county seat.

The proposition is to petition the legislature to increase the automobile tax from 2 cents to \$1, but the legislature will want to know why the automobile owners should be taxed. To show them that it is agreeable a petition signed by every automobile owner in the State will be laid before the legislature asking for the tax. Every county is being organized for the campaign to get the signatures. To this end a list of the automobile owners in each county has been put in the hands of a local committee to get the signature.

The plan for Charleston, as outlined by Mr. Rhett, is to make a personal canvass of the owners and get them to sign the petition. Cards will be furnished the workers and in case one refuses outright to sign that will be noted upon the card. Thus the attitude of every individual concerned will be gotten for the use of the legislature. Mr. Rhett does not believe that this State will ever have any roads until the matter of building them is put under one head and one system. To do this the automobile owners merely ask the State to lend them her credit. The State has a credit while the owners have none. This tax will retire the bonds when they mature and it will cost the State not one cent, while the owners will get a profit from the saving on their machines.

A bill has been prepared and presented to the legislature that provided for a bond issue in 1921. This bill carries some regulations as to traffic, marking the roads, throwing broken glass and other things on the road that will injure the tires and the like.

The legislature is asked to put the tax on now, and that will raise at least \$1,500,000, and if a bill that is before congress now providing for an appropriation for roads passes another sum of equal amount will be available. In 1920 the ten bridges necessary for making the connections can be built and in 1921 the commission can begin upon the roads, building only that part that the funds in hand will justify. The counties can make bond issues and begin building under the supervision of the commission with the understanding that they are to be reimbursed from the State bond issue.

Mr. Rhett made a comprehensive explanation of the plans and the club voted to have a dinner one evening next week, the time to be set by the governors of the club at which the campaign for signatures to the petition will be launched. The enthusiasm displayed by those present indicated that Charleston will get behind this proposition that means so much to the city. It is hard to estimate how much it will be worth to the city to have connections with the rest of the State such as this system will give.

Influenza Spreads at Timmonsville.

Timmonsville, Jan. 17.—The influenza outbreak here is increasing rapidly. It is stated 42 new cases have developed this week. A meeting of the school board was held yesterday afternoon with the result that both white and negro schools were closed indefinitely this morning. Most of the teachers returned to their homes today. Miss Sadie Hewitt of Marion, the fifth grade teacher, has developed the disease.

Atlanta, Jan. 20.—Col. Glade with twenty-seven soldiers who have been hunting alleged deserters and slackers in Georgia mountains for a week, returned to Camp Gordon last night, it was learned today. Four soldiers remained with civil authorities to search for members of the gang still at liberty.

Red Cross Fund

List of Pledges Remaining Unpaid.

Sumter Daily Item:
In compliance with resolutions of Sumter Chapter Red Cross, we today continue publication of the list of unpaid pledges showing names and amounts pledged for war fund last May and payable October 1st, 1918. This list we shall arrange alphabetically. It may be that publication of the list will bring these unpaid pledges to the attention of the persons making same. Payment should be made to The Sumter Trust Co.

Please publish the list as furnished from day to day.

Yours truly,
L. D. JENNINGS,
Chairman Sumter Chapter.
L. C. STRAUSS,
Chairman War Fund.

Nellie Chandler	\$10.00
Bob Chandler	4.00
J. M. Currie	100.00
Rev. R. B. Currie	10.00
Elisha Carson	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. D. China	25.00
Preston China	10.00
Thomas Capell	50.00
Ferdinand Cabbagestalk	5.00
Beatrice Curran	4.00
Edgar Cuthbert, Jr.	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Cuthbert	5.00
D. G. Cato	5.00
F. Q. Cato	5.00
F. J. Chewning	5.00
Hamp Crosby	4.00
Rev. J. P. Crawford	5.00
Mrs. J. E. Crawford	5.00
Ellice Carrish	5.00
Mrs. T. M. Crosswell	25.00
Commander Marble Works	25.00
Mrs. J. W. Cooper	10.00
Elizabeth Cooper	4.00
C. D. Cooper	5.00
C. C. Cooper	4.00
Marion Clarkson	20.00
Warren Clarkson	10.00
Austen Clarkson	4.00
Ellen Clarkson	5.00
G. C. Collins	10.00
J. D. Gritt	10.00
H. R. Camnitz, Jr.	15.00
Margaret Colclough	15.00
Q. S. Colclough	10.00
Sam Colclough	10.00
Colleen Colclough	5.00
Alice Colclough	2.00
Charles Colclough	5.00
Butler Colclough	5.00
Laurine Cummings	10.00
M. W. Cummings	4.00
R. F. Cleaper	10.00
W. G. Cleaper	5.00
Katy Campbell	5.00
Jake Campbell	5.00
Eugene Conyers	10.00
Rose Conyers	7.50
J. W. Cox	5.00
Joe Coleman	5.00
Willie Coleman	10.00
Dennis Cook	12.00
R. P. Cook	5.00
D. R. Compton	10.00
John Calvin	10.00
Mrs. Sam Colerider	2.00
Frank Chaplin	5.00
A. C. Carrigan	5.00
J. F. Carrall	5.00
Geo. Call	2.00
J. A. Carraway	2.00
John Chestnut	5.00
Noah Cockerill	5.00
Bennie Carpenter	5.00
S. E. Davis	50.00
A. M. Davis	5.00
W. T. Davis	20.00
Earnest Davis	10.00
Warren Davis	10.00
James Davis	11.25
Ben Davis	15.00
Sarah Davis	5.00
Hardy Davis	5.00
R. D. Davis	5.00
Samuel Davis	5.00
Geo. Davis	5.00
J. W. Davis	2.00
Isaac & Hattie Davis	3.00
Mrs. J. E. Davis	1.00
John W. Davis	5.00
S. W. Davis	5.00
Willie Dollard	1.00
J. R. Dollard	5.00
Sallie Mae Dollard	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. W. R. DuBose	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. R. E. DuBose	10.00
A. D. DuBose	20.00
Syrus DuBose	5.00
C. H. DuRant	50.00
W. E. DuRant	10.00
Harvey DuRant	4.00
Alice DuRant	5.00
Gus DuRant	5.00
Ellie DuRant	5.00
Joe Dinkins	10.00
Hodge Dinkins	3.00
Fannie Dinkins	5.00
Millie Dinkins	5.00
D. H. Dinkins	5.00
E. S. DesChamps	20.00
Dave Dick	5.00
Willie Deas	3.00
Richard Deas	1.00
J. C. Dunbar	50.00
Mrs. J. C. Dunbar	25.00
Rosa Dixon	5.00
E. L. Dixon	50.00
R. C. Dixon	15.00
W. M. Dixon	4.50
Grace Dixon	5.00
G. D. Dohman	5.00
R. A. Dornis	25.00
Russell Doar	25.00
Mrs. Rosa B. Duffie	5.00
Ophelia Douglass	2.00
Matt Douglass	10.00
Daniel Miller	10.00
Clifton Dorn	10.00
Delgar Dorn	5.00
Mrs. J. R. Dero	10.00
John R. Dero	25.00
Jefferson Dwyer	9.50
Lula Dwyer	3.00
R. A. Dixon	5.00
Della Dixon	4.75
C. H. Dixon	5.00
A. R. Drayton	12.00
Taylor Dunham	0.00
A. R. Donnelly	5.00
A. D. Dorrity	4.00
J. D. Durham	5.00
Willie Dukes	5.00
G. P. Dobson	5.00
Lula Dewit	4.00

Chester, Jan. 17.—The three cotton mills of Chester have enjoyed an era of unprecedented prosperity during the past year. Col. Leroy Springs' two mills here declared dividends of 10 per cent. each on a capitalization of \$300,000 for the Springstein Mills and \$150,000 for the Eureka Mills. The Baldwin Mills likewise declared a dividend of 8 per cent. on a capitalization of \$400,000.

RELIEF FUND GROWING.

Small Amounts Reported so Far by The Canvassing Teams—The Need is Urgent for Relief.

The Armenian Relief collection so far is moving very slowly in Sumter; the total reached by noon today was not yet \$2,000.00, one-fourth of the amount asked from this county. So far no report has come in from the country districts, but it is hoped that the teams there are at work and that the response will be liberal.

The turn-ins from the Sumter teams so far are as follows:

Mass Meeting	\$1,073.90
Mrs. Jenkins, Miss Haynsworth and Miss White	186.40
G. E. Haynsworth and D. M. Dick	82.90
Mrs. L. B. Phillips and Miss Lizzie Muller	168.00
C. D. Brunk and J. A. McKnight	293.50
Mrs. H. A. Mood and Miss Isadore Teicher	28.50
Mrs. Percy Smith and Mrs. J. B. Duffie	54.05

The people of the near east are starving. War and oppression have destroyed their means of livelihood and it is up to the civilized world to extend the helping hand until a crop can be harvested. This money that is being asked from the whole nation, of which Sumter county's part is only \$8,000, goes not only to feed these starving millions, but to buy them tools and farm implements and seed. Not a cent of this money goes to expense, for all the office work, all the cablegrams and all the distribution expense is taken care of by other private subscriptions from men and women who understand the desperate needs of these people.

Out of the fullness of your heart and of from your means your response should be quick and liberal.

Letter From France.

Le Mans, France, Dec. 18.

Dear Mr. McLeod: I guess by the time you receive this letter you will have already heard through the military authorities of the sad death of your son.

I am therefore not writing this as an announcement but simply to express my deep sympathy and to answer the questions I know would be asked by a father's or mother's heart.

Your son was not killed. It was simply God's will that he go, and lying down, he passed out without a word or a groan, just as a little child falling asleep. December the 8th was a warm, quiet rainy day and just after sundown Marion was in his billet with about a dozen of his mates when he received a letter from his sister. He read the letter and sat right down and answered it. After writing the letter, which I am enclosing herewith to you, he got up and was laughing and talking with the boys and seemed to be feeling all right when he suddenly grew pale and still with a smile on his face he sat down, then laid himself down and still smiling, took one deep breath and was gone.

His death is sad, as are all deaths, but you have these things to be thankful for and they should be the silver lining for your dark cloud of sorrow. First: You have the honor of being the parents of a son who stood the test of fire and who always did his full duty without regard to personal safety and at no time did he hesitate even when under heavy shell fire.

Second: Although thousands of miles from his home and in a country where temptations are many, he lived a clean life and God willed that he die without suffering and without the horrors of a mangled body or without the horror of being taken away in any other way than the most natural.

He was buried at LeMans with full military honors and his body will soon be taken home to America and placed for final rest there. For this you should be thankful for there are so many sons who were blown off of the face of the earth and whose bodies even will not be brought home as a comfort to their loved ones.

And Marion did not neglect to protect you in your old age. He left you \$10,000 insurance and you need not pay out a cent to any lawyer to collect this for you as it will be paid to you by the government.

Marion was well liked by all of the boys who knew him and they too share your grief and send their expression of sympathy.

With every good wish to you, I am,
Sincerely yours,
Robert T. Brown,
Captain, 118th Infantry, U. S. A.

BUILDING SHIPS.

Texas Yards Have Not Been Affected by the Armistice.

Beaumont, Tex., Jan. 18.—Shipbuilding on the Gulf coast is booming just as it was before the armistice was signed. The number of workers has not been reduced.

Government contracts held by the four yards in Beaumont and two in Orange, Texas, for vessels which the keel had not been laid, were abandoned, but there were about forty ships in the two ports in various stages of completion and work on them is continuing. The ending of the war had no effect whatever on one yard at Orange which is building ships for the Italian government.

Contracts for sixteen ships by the Southern Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company at Orange were cancelled, but they were quickly renewed and the ships are now to be completed. Shipbuilders say if not another vessel were started at Beaumont and Orange, the yards would be kept busy for a year on present contracts.

Nothing official has been heard here concerning the announcement that work on vessels on which less than \$200,000 has been expended would not be completed. Work on all hulls is proceeding. Nearly 4,500 men are engaged in shipbuilding here and an equal number in Orange.

Post-Office Notice.

On account of the change in schedule of the trains, the Northern mail will close hereafter at 5.15 p. m.

THE SPLIT-LOG DRAG.

Dragging to Improve Roads Must be Persistent.

The main trouble about dragging roads is that we do not drag them enough. What's everybody's business is nobody's business. A rain comes and the road is cut up. We drag it and improve it wonderfully, and the community is enthusiastic over good roads. Another rain comes and we drag again, but this time we are not so eager. Another rain comes, and somebody says, "What's the use?" so the road is left to remain in chuck-holes and ditches. Probably we have no more rain for several weeks, and we bounce over roads that a day's work would have smoothed.

Persistent dragging will keep any ordinary road in good shape, provided the road has been put in good condition with grader to begin with. Dragging must be done after every rain, if good results are expected. The ground should be dry, but not so dry that it will tear up in clods. Continually dragging gradually elevates the center of the road, and keeps the surface smooth, so that the water runs off. Usually, two rounds with a drag is all that is necessary.

A home-made drag that does just as good work as the steel drag, can be made very easily. This drag is made box fashion out of 2x12 plank. These plank are bolted together securely with long bolts, about 18 inches apart. The bottom is left open, but the top is boxed over with plank stout enough to bear the weight of two or three men. The front runner is faced with a piece of steel to protect the plank, and to cut the dirt smoothly. The driver rides on the drag, and can change its position as desired, by shifting his weight from one end to the other.—The Progressive Farmer.

County Health Survey.

Previously published subscriptions from colored citizens. . . . \$296.70

Congruity Presbyterian Ch., Concord, Rev. W. L. Harry. Collected by R. W. Westberry.

Rev. H. L. Harry	1.00
H. T. Francis	1.00
B. J. McKoy	1.00
P. H. Haywood	1.00
Anthony McFadden	1.00
Elijah Pringle	1.00
Felix Gordon	1.00
Tom Fringle	1.00
George Peter Gordon	1.00
Wm. Perry	1.00
Hannable James	1.00
E. Sessions	1.00
J. D. McFadden	1.00
Oscar Montgomery	1.00
I. H. McFadden	1.00
H. T. Gregg	1.00
Martha Frierson	1.00
Minnie Roberts	1.00
J. H. Gregg	1.00
J. C. McKoy	1.00
Della Merrimon	1.00
W. H. Gregg	1.00
J. L. McFadden	1.00
Hubert Sanders	1.00
Henry Wilson	1.00
Easter Frierson	1.00
James Muldrow	1.00
Lee Pringle	1.00
Ned McKoy	1.00
Joe Merrimon	1.00
A. A. Merrimon	4.00
A Friend	5.00
J. A. Frierson	1.00
Clinton Chapel, Sumter, Rev. W. L. Forshee. Collected by R. W. Westberry:	
Richard Tindal	1.00
Perry Neal	1.00
Rev. W. E. Forshee	5.00
Sallie Tindal	1.00
J. D. Porter	1.00
Mrs. M. L. Wells	1.00
J. B. Spann	1.00
Phoebe Haynsworth	1.00
Cash from Concord township	.50
Collected by Dr. L. B. Anthony:	
Rev. J. Manoney	5.00
Grandison Colclough	3.50
E. C. Frierson	1.00
Allen Wheeler	1.00
M. W. Williams	1.00
Timus Hampton	1.00
Mrs. Gracy James	1.00
Sam Green	.50

Total cash (colored) . . . \$352.70

Previously published cash from white citizens . . . \$753.85

N. B. Murray, Dazell . . . 5.00
Mrs. A. J. Goodman, Shiloh . . . 5.00
S. C. Caraway, Shiloh . . . 5.00
C. H. Eilson, Sumter . . . 5.00
W. Gamble Moore, Shiloh . . . 5.00
J. Singleton Moore, Middleton . . . 25.00

Total colored cash . . . \$352.70

Total white cash . . . \$898.35

Grand total to date . . . \$1,251.05
The Sumter Chamber of Commerce is receiving contributions to this fund. Send in your checks or take your cash to the secretary. It looks as though no one else will do anything towards collecting money. Most of the money paid in was secured by Chamber of Commerce soliciting of cash and cooperation.

PEANUT CROP SHORT.

The Texas Crop is Only 25 Per Cent. of Normal.

Dallas, Texas, Jan. 19.—A shortage of peanuts has resulted from unfavorable weather conditions in Texas last summer, according to big dealers here. B. W. Higginbotham, one of the leading buyers, said the Texas crop this year would be only 25 per cent of normal.

The severe drought last summer prevented farmers from raising more than a small share of their usual crop. The drought was followed by excessive rains that caused damage before the peanuts had reached maturity.

The government estimate showed that 15,000,000 bushels of peanuts were raised in Texas in 1917. One section which in 1917 produced 2,000 carloads, this year produced only 500 carloads.

Conditions in east and south Texas were better than in northwest Texas which heretofore has been the principal district of production.

1-2 Price Coat Suit Sale
Begins Wednesday. All suits at 1-2 price for sale. McCollum Bros.—Adv

I COULD NOT WORK OR SLEEP;
NOW I FEEL LIKE A NEW MAN!

Greenville Granite Cutter Comes Forward With Remarkable Testimony of How He Found Quick Relief After Years of Suffering.

Wants the World to Know About It

Makes Statement For Publication. Was Victim of Rheumatism and Stomach Trouble. "I am Now Free of All Pains," He Exclaims Joyously.

Rheumatism is in itself a terrible disease. The pains are excruciating and the discomfort is distressing. Imagine then a person having to undergo the pains of rheumatism and in addition to this, being afflicted with the terrible torture of stomach disorder. Such has indeed been the experience of Mr. G. P. Puckett of 1014 Runcombe street, Greenville, and now after having found relief from both these terrible ailments, he gives permission to publish his experience and the story of how he found relief so that other sufferers might read and profit accordingly. Here is his story:

"I was so full of pain I could not work or sleep. Rheumatism of the joints and stomach trouble made life a constant misery for me until I was almost ready to give up in despair. When I went to bed at night I couldn't sleep. I tried several so-called remedies for rheumatism and stomach trouble but it was not until I tried Dreco that I experienced any relief whatever.

"I am still on the first bottle of

Dreco and the swellings in my joints are going down. I haven't a bit of rheumatism or pain of any sort, I can eat heartily and not suffer for it afterwards. My bowels are regulated and my sleep is untroubled. Believe me I am making up for lost time! I am now free from all pains. Now I feel like a new man, and I thank nothing but Dreco for my deliverance."

It would seem that the greatest victories won by Dreco are in cases where other medicines have been tried and failed to bring the desired relief. Dreco shows up best when compared with other medicines with high-sounding names but little virtue to recommend them.

Dreco is purely and simply a combination of nature's own humble roots and herbs. It contains no new-fangled drugs or dangerous mineral chemicals. It does its work quickly and efficiently by going right straight to the cause of the trouble and building from the bottom.

Dreco is sold and recommended in Sumter by Sibert's Drug Store.—Adv

Japan For Peace

Associated Press Correspondence.

Tokio, Dec. 30.—The Japanese press appears generally disposed to welcome the project for a League of Nations. An occasional writer assails the idea.

Thus, Rear Admiral K. Kato, writing in the New Public Opinion, declares that the formation of a League of Nations would be a blow to the expansion of Japan. But taken as a whole, the Japanese share the faith of the allied people in the political unification of the world. Intellectual sections of the Japanese are giving the questions careful attention. Dr. K. Toda, of Kyoto University, is not contented with the political rearrangement of the world. He suggests that such a rearrangement may prove unworkable unless accompanied by an economic one. He asks, in effect, if territorial ambitions are to be

checked, why not peaceful subjugations?

Professor Abe, of Keio University, expresses a similar view in the Kokumin. The professor states his inability to connect the talk of the Americans about peace, humanity and justice with the pushing on of their naval construction program.

Rear Admiral Kato expresses the opinion that there is a grave danger of China being transformed into an international economic battlefield. The victors in the war may not resort as openly as Germany did in pre-war days to force in the exploitation of China, but, he asks, who can guarantee that England, America and France, when faced with adverse conditions, will not rattle the sabre? With China thus circumstanced, for Japan to hope for peace would be futile. What then, should Japan do to guard against this? To him, no other way is discoverable than that Japan should be well armed.

Building Material and Feed Stuffs

Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Cement, Plaster, Brick, Shingles, Mouldings, Etc.
All kinds of Feed for Horses, Cows, Hogs and Poultry.
We solicit your patronage.

Booth & McLeod, Inc. Phones 10 & 631

Farm Land For Sale

In Sumter, Lee and Clarendon Counties

C. P. OSTEEN, :: Sumter, S. C.